



Maryland Department of General Services

NEWS RELEASE

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor

Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor

Steve Cassard, Secretary

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE AWARDED STATE GRANT FOR DESIGN OF NEW SCIENCE CENTER IN ROCKVILLE

Ehrlich Administration funding for Montgomery College capital projects now tops \$22 million

ANNAPOLIS, MD (July 26, 2006) – Saying “...investments in the solid academic foundations being built at Montgomery College, and the State’s 15 other community colleges, are commitments to Maryland’s future,” Governor Robert L. Ehrlich today announced Board of Public Works approval of a \$2,345,046 State grant for the architectural design of a new science center at Montgomery College’s Rockville campus. Each year the State’s community colleges educate more than 400,000 students of all ages and in all stages of their professional development.

“An educated, skilled work force will attract and create new jobs, and increased opportunities will improve the quality of life for every Marylander,” said Governor Ehrlich. “When completed in fall 2009, this project will give the college a state-of-the-art, first-class science facility that will serve its needs well into the future.”

The project involves the design of a 143,000 square-foot facility to support campus space needs and provide and to provide a new home for the rapidly growing biology, chemistry and physics departments while allowing for the renovation of the existing Science East and West Buildings to meet other campus instructional requirements.

The Board approved award of a \$4,690,093 contract to Burt Hill, Inc., of Washington, D. C. The State share of the contract is \$2,345,046. The design is expected to be complete in October 2007 with construction expected to start in February 2008.

“We are excited about the new home for our science programs which, when complete, will give us the opportunity to better serve students in our fast growing science programs,” said Montgomery College President Charlene Nunley. “We greatly appreciate the Governor’s and the Board of Public Works’ support for this and other projects we’re undertaking so that we can continue providing high quality educational opportunities for all of our students.”

The science center project at Rockville is the latest in a series of new buildings that are being constructed by Montgomery College at each of its three campuses, through a combination of State and local funding.

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At Montgomery College's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, construction is complete on the \$16 million, 100,500 square-foot Health Sciences Center; construction of the new 99,600 square-foot, \$21.8 million Student Services Center is also complete, and design of the new \$28.2 million, 51,617 square-foot Cultural Arts Center is in progress, with construction expected to begin in the spring 2007. Also, as a part of the effort to expand the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, the College is currently renovating the former Giant Food bakery building into a new visual arts center. That project is being financed through bonds not associated with State funding.

At the College's Germantown Campus, the State has also approved design funding for a new bioscience education center. That facility will be also part of a new 40-acre science and technology business park that will include a technology incubator supported, in part, by State funding.

Montgomery College – with campuses in Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring – serves more than 55,000 students a year, through both credit and noncredit programs, in more than 100 areas of study.

Over the last four years, the Board of Public Works has approved 13 design, construction and equipment contract awards for the college's three campuses totaling more than \$43 million with a State grant share of \$22 million.

The Maryland Department of General Services' Project Management and Design Division reviews community college construction projects. In FY 2006, 39 community college contracts valued at more than \$107.3 million were awarded across the State, with the State share of those contracts being \$54.3 million.

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